

U.S. Officials Only

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY

Poland

SUBJECT

Harbor Observations - Gdansk

REPORT

50X1-HUM

DATE DISTR. 8 July 1954

NO. OF PAGES 3

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPP. TO
REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS REPORT IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

The Office of Naval Intelligence furnished the following information to CIA for IAC dissemination in accordance with paragraph 3 c of NSCID No. 2

U.S. Officials Only

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

DISTRIBUTION	STATE	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	FBI						
--------------	-------	------	------	-----	-----	--	--	--	--	--	--

This report is for the use within the USA of the Intelligence components of the Departments or Agencies indicated above. It is not to be transmitted overseas without the concurrence of the originating office through the Assistant Director of the Office of Collection and Dissemination, CIA.

CONFIDENTIAL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

- 2 -

50X1-HUM

4.

5.

6.

7.

There were [redacted] guards stationed around the port, including the piers, and also a guard on each crane. [redacted] the purpose of the guards being stationed on each crane was to forestall and prevent any stowaways being placed [redacted] by the cranes [redacted]

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

Port Facilities

8.

At the coal pier [redacted] Coal came in by railway, and the cranes loaded directly from the railroad cars [redacted]

50X1-HUM

9.

[redacted] the Government agency "BALTONA." BALTONA was well supplied, and [redacted] "you ordered what you wanted and you got it." Prices quoted were considerably lower than those available to the natives ashore. [redacted]

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

- 3 -

50X1-HUM

10. No dry-docks, shipyards, or ship repair facilities were observed. However, [redacted] there were facilities for minor ship repairs.

Ships Observed

11. At the [redacted] coal pier [redacted] one [redacted] ship loading coal [redacted] There were also several Soviet and Polish ships loading coal, [redacted] A [redacted] freighter, [redacted] was loading coal [redacted] Soviet ships were loading coal for ports in the Baltic area. No naval ships were observed. The only armed ships noted were the small Polish tugboats used for patrol purposes. They were armed with small guns, size not determined. some of them were armed with antiaircraft guns. [redacted]

12. [redacted] offshore from Gdynia, one small Soviet destroyer was observed coming from the [redacted] also saw various oil tankers and barges, unidentified.

General Conditions

13. [redacted] a hotel located in the center of Gdansk which was patronized by foreigners. [redacted] to the hotel. There were no street lights, and the road was full of ruts and bumps.
14. The hotel was frequented by many foreign visitors, including Soviets. The food was of good quality, although expensive, and meat, fish and Polish hams were available. [redacted] noted no Communist propaganda around the hotel. [redacted]

15. A representative of BALTONA, [redacted] stated he was a Communist. He stated that Gdansk was a good place in which to live and that he was saving money [redacted] obtained Polish money [redacted] He stated that prices were very high. For example, he paid 100 zlotys for two beers.

50X1-HUM

16. The Polish workers [redacted] gave the impression that they were downtrodden and had lost everything. They appeared to be afraid to speak, even to each other. At the conclusion of their shift, they would sleep on the floor. [redacted] offered them cigarettes, which they refused [redacted] offered [redacted] a Pole, a package of cigarettes, but [redacted] would accept only one cigarette at a time. The Coast Guard officers [redacted] were offered drinks, but they refused everything.

17. [redacted] observed many soldiers and sailors ashore. However [redacted] whether there was a military base in the area. [redacted] the primary purpose of the soldiers was to protect the port. [redacted] observed no construction work [redacted]

18. During [redacted] trip to the hotel [redacted] the taxi driver pointed to a bridge leading from the mainland to the island and stated that no vehicles were permitted close to the bridge. Also, that no cars are permitted inside the island. [redacted]

50X1-HUM

19. [redacted] characterized the living conditions of the natives as being very poor. For example, a day's wages were equivalent only to the price of 1 1/2 pounds of meat. [redacted]

- end -